

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

Participating in extracurricular activities with the Hilliard City School District is not a right but a privilege which may be regulated by the Board of Education. It is required that students participating in athletic activities become familiar with and understand the rules and regulations required of students participating in athletic activities within the Hilliard City School District. Students participating in athletic programs are required to abide by the rules and policies as set forth in this policy at all times regardless of whether or not the student is on school grounds, attending a school function or activity, on private property or at a private party.

Students participating in athletic activities must become familiar with and understand the rules and regulations for students participating in athletic activities. Students are expected to abide by all rules and regulations as well as any and all other training rules or organization rules associated with the athletic activity. Violation of these rules and regulations and/or the Hilliard City School District Code of Conduct are prohibited and will result in disciplinary action. Such disciplinary action could lead to suspension, expulsion or removal from school and/or the athletic activity in accordance with these rules and the Ohio Revised Code. The student code of conduct and all extracurricular organization rules shall be posted either in a team locker room or the team's central location in the school building.

It must be understood by all students and their parents/guardians that a condition to participating in the athletic program at the Hilliard City School District requires a commitment to follow the rules, regulations, policies and procedures established by the District for the implementation of its athletic program. It should also be understood that a student who violates these rules, regulations, policies and procedures shall face disciplinary action. Such disciplinary action may include removal from participation in athletic activities and possible suspension, expulsion, or removal from school pursuant to the student code of conduct and Ohio Revised Code 3313.66. A student removed from participation in athletics shall be given an informal hearing with the building principal.

(The accompanying chart depicts the process utilized for first-time violations.)

All students who have been denied participation for a season or longer shall forfeit any athletic awards earned for the activity for that season from the Hilliard City School District or any other association as a result of participation in the athletic activity.

Offenses and Disciplinary Action

Use, sale or possession of tobacco products, alcohol, drugs, controlled substances, inhalants, alternative nicotine products, electronic cigarettes, personal vaporizers (e.g., JUUL), electronic nicotine delivery system, look-alikes and/or other illegal substances, including but not limited to drug paraphernalia, lighters, matches and other flame producing materials, etc., is strictly prohibited throughout the calendar year (365 days). Any extracurricular participant hosting or attending (as confirmed by a law enforcement agency or school district employee) a party where tobacco products, alcohol or other drugs are consumed shall also be prohibited.

A. First offense:

- 1) Student will be suspended from participation for 20% of that sport's maximum allowable regular season contests.
- 2) May reduce suspension consequence to 10% of the maximum allowable regular season contests by completing an Educational Diversion Program.
- 3) Must attend all practices/team required activities during the suspension if the coach allows.

B. Second offense:

- 1) Student will be suspended from participation for 50% of that sport's maximum allowable regular season contests. If there is less than 50% of the maximum allowable regular season contests, the remaining percentage will carry over to the next sport.
- 2) Completion of an Educational Diversion Program required for reinstatement.
- 3) Must attend all practices/team activities during the suspension if the coach allows.

C. Third offense:

- 1) Student will be suspended from participation in all athletic activities for one calendar year.
- 2) Completion of an Educational Diversion Program required for reinstatement.

D. Fourth offense:

- 1) Student will be suspended from participation in all athletic activities for the remainder of their school career.

Educational Diversion Program (EDP)

Eligibility for the EDP requires a written letter of application by the student and parent/guardian to the building principal. Such an application may be made only after a student attends an assessment by a certified drug and alcohol counselor within a fourteen (14) day period or ten (10) school days, whichever is less, and agrees to carry out the recommendations. A written copy of the assessment must be sent to the principal regarding the fitness of the particular student to return to athletic activities with Hilliard City Schools.

Upon the student's completion of the assessment, the principal shall refer the student's case to the Athletic Advisory Council. The Athletic Advisory Council shall consist of:

1. assistant principal
2. athletic director
3. head coach
4. student's guidance counselor
5. Core Team chairperson.

A principal may assign other individuals as members of this committee at the principal's discretion.

The Athletic Advisory Council shall meet with the student and his/her parents or guardians. The Athletic Advisory Council shall then make a recommendation to the building principal concerning whether or not the student may be considered to return to participation in athletic activities with the Hilliard City School District. A student shall be suspended from all participation in athletic activities with the District for the duration of any hearing with the principal or EDP.

Self-Referral Policy

The self-referral option is available to students only on the first infraction (no prior violations on record). If a student seeks assistance in dealing with an alcohol, tobacco-related or other drug problem by self-referral to their coach, advisor, school administrator, or Athletic Director and agrees to participate in an assessment and carry out the recommendations, and attend a minimum of nine (9) hours drug and alcohol education, the student will be removed from all athletic activities for seven (7) days. The nine (9) hour program of inservice education must be completed at the earliest possible date. The assessment must be scheduled and completed within fourteen (14) days of the self-referral. Refusal or failure to complete the assessment will result in the full penalty as provided in this policy. Self-referrals which result in no prohibition from participation are still considered first violations in the event of a subsequent second violation.

A self-referral cannot be used by a participant as a method to avoid consequences once the policy has been violated and a student has been identified as having violated such policy.

All self-referrals under this policy will be reported to the principal/assistant principal at the high school level and to the guidance counselors at the middle school.

Follow-Up Services

Upon return from residential or out-patient treatment, the following support services will be provided:

1. Student, parent(s), counselor and administrator (when available) will have a readmission conference to develop educational plans.
2. It will be recommended to parents that they attend parent support group meetings, e.g., AL-ANON, Tough Love.
3. Student will be required to attend eight (8) weekly support group meetings in school unless a treatment facility and/or school administrator recommends otherwise. The student may remain in the student support group after this requirement is satisfied. Where a student support group does not exist, the student will have contact with the guidance counselor or school administrator for a minimum of eight weeks.

Notification Procedures

The student participant and his/her parent or guardian are to be advised of the Extracurricular Drug, Tobacco and Alcohol Policy at the beginning of each season, activity or time of entry into a program. This policy is to be explained to the student by the coach, advisor, director or teacher.

This policy will be included in all student handbooks.

Relationship of These Policies and Regulations to the District's Code of Student Conduct

These policies and regulations supplement the District's code of student conduct and are administered independently of that code. A violation of these regulations may also independently violate the code of student conduct and result in suspension or expulsion from school or removal from curricular or extracurricular activity under the provisions of that Code in addition to any disciplinary penalty that may be called for under these regulations.

Costs

All costs for any rehabilitation program or counseling for a tobacco, alcohol or drug problem under these regulations shall be the responsibility of the student.

Code of Conduct for Athletes

Hilliard athletes take pride in their school, in superior conditioning, playing as a team and giving 100 percent to win the game.

It is a privilege to be a member of the school's athletic team; a right which can be earned only when one abides by the rules of the school and of the game. Our athletes are expected to be models of good behavior. They are representing the school and the community at athletic events throughout the area. We want to be proud of their efforts.

Any student participating in any school athletic program shall carry either the District's student insurance or provide a written statement signed by the student's parents or guardians that the parents or guardians are providing the insurance.

1. Rules Concerning Appearance:

At the beginning of each sports season the coach and players shall determine appearance rules. Suggested guidelines are:

- A. Uniforms should be clean and neat and in good repair.
- B. The school dress code will be in effect.

2. Rules Concerning Eligibility:

Ohio High School Athletic Association rules concerning eligibility are to be discussed with the squad.

- A. In order to be eligible, a student must have passed five credits that count toward graduation during the prior grading period. The five credits may be a combination of high school and college courses.
- B. Summer school grades earned may not be used to substitute for failing grades from the last grading period of the regular school year.
- C. In order to play in a game, players must be in attendance the day of the game. (Attendance means being in school the full day.)
- D. It is recommended that a student be a member of no more than one interscholastic team at any one time. When a player is removed or quits a team, organized conditioning or participation on another team is forbidden until the original sport is completed.

- E. A student may be declared ineligible by the administrative office for reasons of discipline.
- F. Medical clearance and insurance waivers are required prior to participation. (Physicals are good for one calendar year.)

3. Practice Rules:

- A. Individual coaches will establish written rules and regulations regarding practice, attendance and conduct at games.

4. Travel Rules:

- A. Rules for school bus travel shall be essentially the same as for students being transported to and from school. Exceptions may be permitted by agreement between coach and driver, provided safety is not compromised.
- B. Athletes must always travel with the team unless the coach/advisor excuses a player to travel with his/her parent.

5. Behavior Rules:

It shall be the prerogative of the coach, principal or the Athletic Council Rules Committee to discipline an athlete for:

- A. violation of the rules listed above;
- B. violation of Board policies and school rules;
- C. violation of established team rules and
- D. violation of Ohio High School Athletic Association rules. Copies shall be available in the school office.

The code of conduct for athletes applies seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Students may be removed from the team for the following offenses:

- A. use or possession of alcoholic beverages, drugs or other mind-altering substances;
- B. the use of tobacco in any form;

- C. destroying or stealing athletic equipment and
- D. violation of rules, team rules, Board of Education policies and/or OHSSA rules.

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